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Lewis County Planning Commissioners  
Chehalis, WA 98532

Dear Lewis County Planning Commissioners:

Gabe and I are writing today to express our concerns and views regarding Lewis County's Proposed Draft Recreational Marijuana Amendment to Lewis County Code Title 17.

While we certainly, as county residents, are thrilled to have our commissioners involvement on issues that affect our community; we ask that you take careful consideration on how many variables you add to the already comprehensive and restrictive state regulations (WAC Chapter 314-55) already put into place regarding the producing, processing and retail sales of recreational marijuana in Washington State. We would like to see our county adopt the WAC and not add any other restrictions or special use permits to our businesses. It has already been a long, tedious and expensive road. We feel that Washington State has done a sufficient job of regulating. Please do not make it any more difficult on your residence that just want to make money to spend it back in our county.

If the Special Use Permit is something that must be put into play, we ask that you consider a few things to your Proposed Draft. We strongly urge the Planning Commission to re-evaluate the 100ft setback from property lines. While we understand the thought process behind a rule like this will keep our neighbors protected from lighting or security cameras or other nuisances. We feel the wording is too vague. It may eliminate many people who do not even have neighbors within 1000 ft of the proposed business, but may be near a road or even their own adjacent parcel. We ask that you consider cutting down the distance. Or only require the distance if you are planning to place your business near your neighbor. Maybe do not put a restriction at all.

We also strongly urge different verbiage regarding the definitions in Chapter 17.10.

In breaking down the types of Processing you are further restricting businesses from operating how they want to in accordance with State law. While we agree that some more restrictions need to be put on processors that are using a chemical or mechanical extraction process. We do not feel that restrictions should be put on ALL types of processing. There are many different ways to extract THC and CBD from a plant. Many do not include any form of chemical and or mechanical processing. Such as ice processing or infusing cooking oils or butters. They do not produce any chemical or hazardous waste. We feel the current wording is too restrictive. We would like to see the commission take this into consideration when putting these types of definitions into their Proposed Draft.

Lastly, we certainly understand that obtaining a Special Use Permit is required for some businesses to operate in Lewis County. We also know that these businesses do not have to go through the considerable amount of work, red tape and money we have gone through to even be considered licensable by the State of Washington to run their business. We ask that you take that into consideration when making it more difficult for your residences to run an already heavily regulated business.

Thank you again for all the time you have devoted to this.

Sincerely,

Summer Chapman and Gabe Koth